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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/077,182	02/15/2002	Steven M. Bloom	09857-092001	9522
26161	7590	01/18/2007	EXAMINER	
FISH & RICHARDSON PC P.O. BOX 1022 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55440-1022			CHANDLER, SARA M	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3693	

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	01/18/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/077,182	BLOOM ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Sara Chandler	3693

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).

Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 February 2002.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 10/14/03.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Double Patenting

The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. A nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting rejection is appropriate where the conflicting claims are not identical, but at least one examined application claim is not patentably distinct from the reference claim(s) because the examined application claim is either anticipated by, or would have been obvious over, the reference claim(s). See, e.g., *In re Berg*, 140 F.3d 1428, 46 USPQ2d 1226 (Fed. Cir. 1998); *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) or 1.321(d) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent either is shown to be commonly owned with this application, or claims an invention made as a result of activities undertaken within the scope of a joint research agreement.

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

Claims 1-12 provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-12, respectively of copending Application No. 10/001,900. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because both applications are drawn to a: creation unit basket of securities for a first fund having a basis that is substantially the same basis as a creation unit basis for a second fund that is traded on a second marketplace in a different country than that of the first fund; and delivering a prescribed number of shares to account for cash that may be owed between the agent and the participant.

This is a provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection because the conflicting claims have not in fact been patented.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being incomplete for omitting essential steps, such omission amounting to a gap between the steps. See MPEP § 2172.01. The omitted steps are: how is the financial product produced?

The term "substantially" in claims 1, 7 and 12 is a relative term which renders the claim indefinite. The term "substantially" is not defined by the claim, the specification does not provide a standard for ascertaining the requisite degree, and one of ordinary skill in the art would not be reasonably apprised of the scope of the invention. How is "substantially the same basis" measured?

The term "may be" in claims 1,2,4, 7,8,12 and 13 is indefinite. Is the cash required or not?

The term "small amount" in claims 4 and 10 is a relative term which renders the claim indefinite. The term "small amount" is not defined by the claim, the specification does not provide a standard for ascertaining the requisite degree, and one of ordinary

skill in the art would not be reasonably apprised of the scope of the invention. How is a "small amount of cash' measured?

Dependent claims 2-6, 8-11 and 13 are further rejected based on the same rationale as the claims from which they depend.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made..

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

Claims 1-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gastineau, US Pub. No. 2001/0025266 in view of "Exchange traded funds—the wave of the future ?," by Stuart M. Strauss. The Investment Lawyer. Englewood Cliffs: Apr. 2000. Vol. 7, Iss. 4.

Re Claim 1: Gastineau discloses the method of producing a financial product that is traded on a first marketplace, comprising:

exchanging between a market participant and an agent a creation unit basket of securities for the first fund traded for a prescribed number of shares in the first fund, which has a basis that is substantially the same basis as a creation unit basis for a second fund that is traded on a second marketplace in a different country than that of the first fund (Gastineau, [0001] [0002] [0003] [0004]).

Gastineau fails to explicitly disclose a method comprising: delivering by either the agent or market participant a number of shares in the second fund or in other securities to account for any "cash amount" that may be owed between the agent and the participant as a result of the exchange of the creation unit basket of securities for the shares in the first fund.

Strauss discloses the method comprising: delivering by either the agent or market participant a number of shares in the second fund or in other securities to account for any "cash amount" that may be owed between the agent and the participant as a result of the exchange of the creation unit basket of securities for the shares in the first fund (Strauss, pgs. 1-3).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Gastineau by adopting the teachings of Strauss to provide a method further comprising delivering by either the agent or market participant a number of shares in the second fund or in other securities to account for any "cash amount" that may be owed between the agent and the participant as a result of the exchange of the creation unit basket of securities for the shares in the first fund.

As suggested by Strauss one would have been motivated to ensure that shares are purchased at NAV.

Re Claim 7: Gastineau discloses a computer program product for administrating a financial product that is traded on a first marketplace, the product based on a creation unit basket of securities having a basis that is substantially the same basis as the creation unit basis for a second fund that is traded on a second marketplace in a different country (Gastineau, [0001] [0002] [0003] [0004]), comprises instructions for causing a processor to:

Gastineau fails to explicitly disclose a computer program product to: determine a number of shares in the second fund or number of shares of other securities to account for any "cash amount" that may be owed between the agent and the participant in addition to the prescribed number of shares in the first fund exchanged between the market participant and agent in exchange for the creation unit basket.

Strauss discloses a computer program product to: determine a number of shares in the second fund or number of shares of other securities to account for any "cash amount" that may be owed between the agent and the participant in addition to the prescribed number of shares in the first fund exchanged between the market participant and agent in exchange for the creation unit basket (Strauss, pgs. 1-3).

Intended Use: The claim makes several intended use statements which do not carry patentable weight (i.e., "a computer program product for"; "instructions for"). What follows the statement of intended use (i.e., "for") does not carry patentable weight. The

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claimed invention must result in a structural difference between the claimed invention and the prior art in order to patentably distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art. If the prior art structure is capable of performing the intended use, then it meets the claim.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Gastineau by adopting the teachings of Strauss to provide a computer program product to determine a number of shares in the second fund or number of shares of other securities to account for any "cash amount" that may be owed between the agent and the participant in addition to the prescribed number of shares in the first fund exchanged between the market participant and agent in exchange for the creation unit basket.

As suggested by Strauss one would have been motivated to ensure that shares are purchased at NAV.

Re Claim 12: Gastineau discloses a computer system for administrating a financial product that is traded on a first marketplace, the product based on a creation unit basket of securities having a basis that is substantially the same basis as the creation unit basis for a second fund that is traded on a second marketplace in a different country (Gastineau, [0001] [0002] [0003] [0004]), comprises:
a processor (Gastineau, [0020] [0036]);
a memory (Gastineau, [0020]); and

a storage device that stores a program for execution by the processor using the memory, the program comprising instructions for causing the processor to (Gastineau, abstract, [0010] [0020]).

Gastineau fails to explicitly disclose a computer system to:
determine a number of shares in the second fund or number of shares of other securities to account for any "cash amount" that may be owed between the agent and the participant in addition to the prescribed number of shares in the first fund exchanged between the market participant and agent in exchange for the creation unit basket.

Strauss discloses a computer system to:
determine a number of shares in the second fund or number of shares of other securities to account for any "cash amount" that may be owed between the agent and the participant in addition to the prescribed number of shares in the first fund exchanged between the market participant and agent in exchange for the creation unit basket (Strauss, pgs. 1-3).

Intended Use: The claim makes several intended use statements which do not carry patentable weight (i.e., "a computer system for"; "a storage device that stores a program for"; "instructions for"). What follows the statement of intended use (i.e., "for") does not carry patentable weight. The claimed invention must result in a structural difference between the claimed invention and the prior art in order to patentably distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art. If the prior art structure is capable of performing the intended use, then it meets the claim.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Gastineau by adopting the teachings of Strauss to provide a computer system to determine a number of shares in the second fund or number of shares of other securities to account for any "cash amount" that may be owed between the agent and the participant in addition to the prescribed number of shares in the first fund exchanged between the market participant and agent in exchange for the creation unit basket.

As suggested by Strauss one would have been motivated to ensure that shares are purchased at NAV.

Re Claims 2, 8 and 13: Gastineau in view of Strauss discloses the claimed method/computer program product comprising instructions for/computer system supra and Strauss further discloses the method/computer program product comprising instructions for/computer system wherein the storage device comprises instructions for: calculating the amount of cash needed to be exchanged between agent and the participant to have the NAV of the first fund, calculated at the close of trading in the second country in which the second fund is traded, equate to the value of the creation unit for that first fund plus or minus that "cash amount," to determine the cash that may be owed between the agent and the participant (Strauss, pgs. 1-3).

Re Claims 3 and 9: Gastineau in view of Strauss discloses the claimed method/computer program product supra and Strauss further discloses the method/computer program product wherein if the "cash amount" is a negative amount the agent issues shares in the second country fund or provide other securities in lieu of

the cash amount, and if "cash amount" is a positive amount the agent accepts second country fund shares or other securities in lieu of cash amount (Strauss, pgs. 1-3).

Re Claims 4 and 10: Gastineau in view of Strauss discloses the claimed method/computer program product comprising instructions supra and Strauss further discloses the method/computer program product comprising instructions to provide wherein a small amount of cash may be required to be exchanged in either direction to equate the first country shares with the first fund creation unit basket plus or minus the second country shares or other securities provided to cover the "cash amount" (Strauss, pgs. 1-3).

Re Claims 5,6 and 11: Gastineau in view of Strauss discloses the claimed method/computer program product supra and Strauss further discloses the method/computer program product wherein the agent sets a maximum amount of cash that it will give to or receive from participants with respect to "cash amount" obligations between the agent and the participant (Strauss, pgs. 1-3); and wherein transactions that exceed the maximum amount will result in issuance or receipt of the second country fund shares or other securities, rather than cash, along with the prescribed amount of first country shares (Strauss, pgs. 1-3).

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Bloom, US Pub. No. 2002/0091616 - eft;

Gastineau, US Pat. No. 7,099,838 - etf;

Gastineau, US Pat. No. 6,941,280 - etf;

"Critics Worry about risks of Exchange-Traded Funds," Wall Street Journal; New York, NY; Jul. 7, 2000; By Karen Damato and Aaron Lucchetti - etf.; and "Exchange-traded funds not for everyone," by Wilfred L Dellva. Journal of Financial Planning. Denver: Apr. 2001. Vol. 14, Iss. 4 - etf.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sara Chandler whose telephone number is 571-272-1186. The examiner can normally be reached on 8-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Kramer can be reached on 571-272-6783. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

James Kramer
James Kramer